

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5095

To apply arbitration to major league baseball, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 23, 1994

Mr. WILLIAMS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To apply arbitration to major league baseball, and for other
purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Major League Play
5 Ball Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7 It is the purpose of this Act to encourage serious ne-
8 gotiations between the major league baseball players and
9 the owners of major league baseball, to prevent the contin-
10 ued economic loss to individuals not involved in the nego-
11 tiations whose livelihood depends on baseball being played,

1 to prevent ongoing losses to those communities that host
2 major league baseball, to preserve major and minor league
3 baseball, and to resolve the dispute between the players
4 and owners.

5 **SEC. 3. ARBITRATION.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Effective February 1, 1995, the
7 dispute between the owners of major league baseball and
8 the labor organization representing the players of major
9 league baseball shall be subject to binding arbitration by
10 the arbitration board established under subsection (b).

11 (b) ARBITRATION BOARD.—

12 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—For purposes of sub-
13 section (a), there is established an arbitration board
14 which shall consist of—

15 (A) one representative of the owners of
16 major league baseball selected by such owners,

17 (B) one representative of the major league
18 baseball player's association selected by such
19 association, and

20 (C) one individual to be selected in accord-
21 ance with the procedures of the American Arbi-
22 tration Association or procedures otherwise
23 agreed to by the parties.

24 The board shall convene February 1, 1995 to resolve
25 all issues not resolved by the parties.

1 (2) AUTHORITY.—The board shall have the
2 power to take testimony under oath, to conduct
3 hearings, and to issue subpoenas for books and
4 records. The parties appearing before the board may
5 be represented by counsel.

6 (3) DECISION.—The board shall select between
7 the final offer of each party which may be submitted
8 before the close of the hearing held under paragraph
9 (2). The board shall consider the following in select-
10 ing the most appropriate offer—

11 (A) the unique legal status of major league
12 baseball,

13 (B) the history of collective bargaining
14 agreements between the parties,

15 (C) the changes in circumstances of the
16 parties,

17 (D) the owner's ability to pay,

18 (E) the best interests of baseball, and

19 (F) other factors considered by arbitration
20 panels if applicable given the history of major
21 league baseball and past collective bargaining
22 between the parties.

23 The board shall render a decision on March 15,
24 1995, which shall be final, binding, and replace the

- 1 basic agreement between the parties which expired
- 2 on December 31, 1993.

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